

Planning
Wrexham County Council

Sent by email.

Eich cyfeirnod
Your reference

P/2023/0674

Ein cyfeirnod
Our reference

Dyddiad
Date

2 November 2023

Llinell uniongyrchol
Direct line

0300 025 6007

Ebost
Email:

Cadwplanning@gov.wales

Dear Sir / Madam,

Erection of 2 extensions to provide visitor facilities, Brymbo Iron and Steelworks, Heritage Centre, Brymbo, Wrexham

Thank you for your letter inviting our comments on the information submitted for the above planning application.

Advice

We consider that the application is inadequately documented and we recommend that additional information is required to enable a balanced decision to be taken against Planning Policy Wales, Technical Advice Note 24 Historic Environment and associated guidance. Full details of the additional information that is required are explained in the below assessment.

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The national policy and Cadw's role in planning are set out in Annex A.

Assessment

The application area includes scheduled monument DE202 Brymbo Ironworks: Early Blast Furnace, Cast House & Foundry. Scheduled monument consent has previously been granted for a similar development but the changes to the design of the proposed development will require a new scheduled monument consent to be granted. The new scheduled monument consent application and this planning application will require the current heritage impact assessment to be revised in order for the impact of the submitted design on the designated historic asset to be fully understood in accordance with section 6.1.26 of Planning Policy Wales. Your authority should therefore request the applicant to submit a revised heritage impact assessment fully detailing the likely impact of the current design of the proposed development on the designated historic asset. It is also strongly recommended that the applicant and their agents should continue to discuss their proposals with Cadw to ensure that appropriate mitigation measures are included in the revised heritage impact assessment.



Yours sincerely,

Nichola Smith
Casework Manager



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Annex A

Our role

Our statutory role in the planning process is to provide the local planning authority with an assessment concerned with the likely impact that the proposal will have on scheduled monuments, registered historic parks and gardens, registered historic landscapes where an Environmental Impact Assessment is required and development likely to have an impact on the outstanding universal value of a World Heritage Site. We do not provide an assessment of the likely impact of the development on listed buildings or conservation areas, as these are matters for the local authority.

It is for the local planning authority to weigh our assessment against all the other material considerations in determining whether to approve planning permission.

National Policy

Applications for planning permission are considered in light of the Welsh Government's land use planning policy and guidance contained in Planning Policy Wales (PPW), Technical Advice Notes and related guidance.

PPW [planning-policy-wales-edition-11.pdf](#) explains that it is important that the planning system looks to protect, conserve and enhance the significance of historic assets. This will include consideration of the setting of an historic asset which might extend beyond its curtilage. Any change that impacts on an historic asset or its setting should be managed in a sensitive and sustainable way.

The conservation of archaeological remains and their settings is a material consideration in determining a planning application, whether those remains are a scheduled monument or not. Where nationally important archaeological remains are likely to be affected by proposed development, there should be a presumption in favour of their physical protection in situ. It will only be in exceptional circumstances that planning permission will be granted if development would result in a direct adverse impact on a scheduled monument (or an archaeological site shown to be of national importance)

[Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment](#) elaborates by explaining that when considering development proposals that affect scheduled monuments or other nationally important archaeological remains, there should be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation in situ, i.e. a presumption against proposals which would involve significant alteration or cause damage, or would have a significant adverse impact causing harm within the setting of the remains.

Historic Parks and Gardens

PPW also explains that local authorities should value, protect, conserve and enhance the special interests of parks and gardens and their settings included on the register of historic parks and gardens in Wales and that the effect of a proposed development on a registered park or garden or its setting should be a material consideration in the determination of a planning application.